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HYDERABAD RUPEE A.H. 1330

by S. R. Icewala and R. T. Somaiya - Bombay

Collectors of Hyderabad Coins were given a pleasant surprise by the WHITE OAK TRADING CO., INC., vide their advertisement covering Hyderabad Rupee of Half Aion* variety (Fig. 1) on page 735 of June 1971 issue of "World Coins" magazine. We had this coin in our collection but was not aware of its rarity until we saw this advertisement.

(*(Ed. note): The aion (Arabic, 'ain) is the 18th letter of the Arabic alphabet and the first letter of the name of Usman Ali (Arabic: 'Uthman 'Ali) عنان على (.)





Fig. 1

Subsequently, we both started looking for 1330 A.H. Half Aion variety. During the past few months both of us kept in touch with a couple of Silver Refining Companies who receive coins of Hyderabad in the thousands and melt them to recover the silver. This exercise did confirm the rarity of the variety as, we could get only 95 coins of that type out of almost 70,000 Hyderabad Rupees that we examined, but, it also brought to light still rarer varieties.

It was discovered that in 1330 A.H., besides Half Aion, there were issued Full Aion Rupees in

two varieties; one with Regnal Year I (Fig. 2) and the other with Regnal Year II (Fig. 3). Whereas, out of more than 70,000 Rupees, we could sort only 95 of 1330 A.H. Half Aion, we found just 20 of 1330 A.H. with Regnal Year II and only 7 of 1330 A.H. with Regnal Year I. Therefore, in order of rarity, first place goes to 1330 A.H. Full Aion with Regnal Year I, second place goes to 1330 A.H. Full Aion with Regnal Year II and only third places goes to 1330 A.H. Half Aion variety.

This conclusion has been arrived at after almost four months regular check-up of large quantity of these varieties of Hyderabad Rupees. The accompany pictures of the three coins referred in this article, will help collector-friends to identify them and in case of their having any of these three coins in their collection, they may be rightfully proud for having the same in their collection.







Fig. 2







Fig. 3

Three varieties came up in 1330 A.H. because Mir Usman Ali (A.D. 1911-48), the Nizam of Hyderabad whose coins they are, came onto the throne in the second half of A.H. 1329. His first issue was minted in 1330 with Half Aion 🗲 . Subsequently, he noticed that , 9 on his coins was looking very much similar to P which represented his late father Mir Mehboob Ali (A.D. 1869-1911) on coins issued during his regime.

He therefore ordered minting of his coins with full Aion & which

was done immediately. Since Half Aion variety was issued during the first year of his reign it bears Regnal Year

(جلوس ۱) یا

on the reverse. Similarly the Full Aion variety which replaced the Half Aion variety was also issued immediately in the later part of the same Regnal Year, we come across 1330 A.H. with Regnal Year I. These having been minted for a very short period, they have been found extremely rare.

In the second half of 1330 A.H., the First Regnal Year having been completed and second Regnal Year having started, we get the 1330 A.H. Full Aion Rupees with Regnal Year II as well, marked on the reverse

(Fig. 3) as " . These multiple issues of Hyderabad in one calendar year (Hijri) makes them unique and it would be most appropriate if specialized catalogues take special note of this type and its varieties for guidance of all fellow numismatists.**

(**(Ed. Note): Since receipt of this article from Messrs. Somaiya and Icewalla, the 10th Edition of R. S. Yeoman's "A Catalogue of Modern World Coins 1850-1960" has been issued and the 1330 Half Aion has been listed as a variety under Yeoman Number A30. The 1330 Full Aion varieties are not covered as Yeoman's regular listing of these Rupees begins with the date 1331, Yeoman Number 33.)

KOREAN CAST COINAGE... SUMMARY OF THE HO ISSUES

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by John K. Graves P. O. Box 91 Contcocook, N. H. 03229

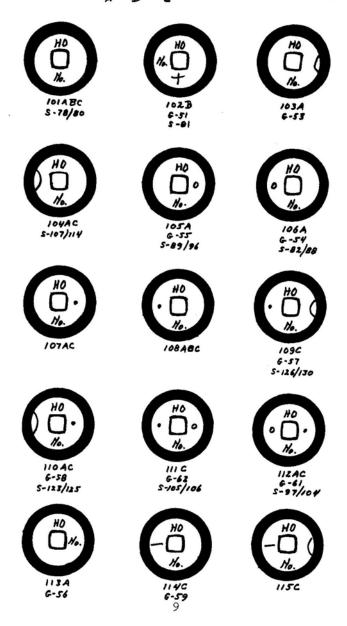
The largest and most complicated section of Korean Cast Coinage is that of the 1 Mun coins issued by the Seoul Board of Revenue Treasury Department. The illustrations following show the various types of the HO character together with the numerous furnace symbols, known to the writer. Perhaps other varieties exist. Since all the molds were handmade, rarely are two coins found to be exactly the same. Also numerous imperfections and added "globs" of casting cause almost limitless variations.

The writer uses the following system for identification: Each series is identified by the name of the issuing authority, in this case "HO". Where more than one type of character is found, a letter designates each type, as shown below. Each coin has a base number of three figures, the first digit indicating the value; in this case 1 Mun. The next two figures indicate the furnace number or symbol. Since most furnace groups run with die numbers ranging from 1 to 10, these are so indicated after the first three base numbers, separated by a period. (The single 10-Mun and the two 100-Mun coins known to this writer bear other identification.) Thus, the number for Gardner's No. 117 5-Mun coin would be HO 501.11A.

To help those who might have "The Coinage of Corea" by C. T. Gardner or "Chinese Currency" by Fredrik Schjöth, cross reference is made to these two authorities as indicated. It should be remembered, however, that Gardner makes no distinction of the three basic HO characters found.

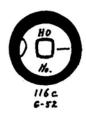
The writer welcomes any additions to this series which might be known to others. He is also in the market to buy at reasonable prices any Korean Cast Coins the members might have for sale, or to borrow unusual ones for further research, if not for sale. This is a fairly sizeable series in the Oriental area, numbering somewhat over 2,500 different pieces, many of them issued during the period when no coins were being cast in Japan, one of the prime occupants of Korea.

HOTYPES 戸京 1 MUN Summary





1 MUN























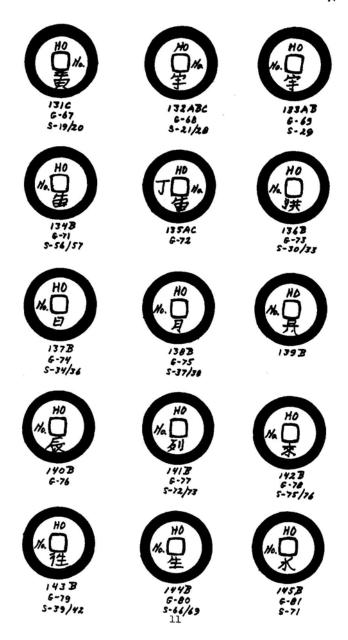


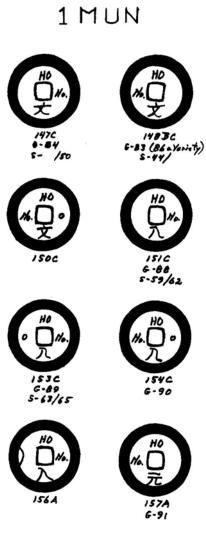






1 MUN Summary













Roman Propaganda:

THE COINAGE OF CAESAR AUGUSTUS 44 BC - 14 AD

by Walter W. Leonard

Throughout its long history, the Roman Empire lacked an efficient organ of communication. The Imperial government accordingly struck upon the most effective means possible for its times. In the last century of the Republic, the mint officials had used the coinage as a means of advertising their families or. less commonly,

current events. Under the first Roman Emperor, Augustus, the coinage began to be systematically used as a means of communication between the government and the citizens. The coinage was an especially good vehicle since the average citizen, besides his natural interest in money, was aware that his coins possessed some other significance. Also suiting the coins to their purpose was the fact that, evidently, any large issue was fairly certain to quickly penetrate most corners of the Empire.

Augustus issued coins before he became Emperor. These coins were struck during the period of the Triumvirate (43-31 BC) of Antony, Augustus, and Lepidus. The Augustan types of this period, like those of his partners, were very largely military in character since they were struck to pay the all-important legions. One great theme, however, is discernable during the period. By his will, Julius Caesar had adopted Augustus as his son, thus giving him the name Caesar and a claim on the loyalty of the legions -- a claim he parlayed into a seat on the Triumvirate. It is not surprising that the name CAESAR appears very prominently on his early coins, along with another title DIVI.F (abbrev.: Son of the Deified Caesar). After the assassination of Caesar, Augustus had "persuaded" the Senate to proclaim Julius DIVUS (a demi-god). While it is difficult to precisely explain the exact nature of Roman deification, it should be obvious that to be thought the son of a god would not be a liability in politics. The deified Caesar thus figures very prominently in the mintages of the young

After the battle of Actium (31 BC) had laid the Roman world at his feet, Augustus was faced with the problem of ruling a world that had seen a century of upheaval and civil war. Augustus was now faced with the necessity of legitimizing the power his legions had won for him. For several years after Actium, Augustus was too busy putting things in order for any permanent settlement. In 27 BC Augustus ostentatiously "restored" the Republic and resigned all his offices. The Senate, by now nicely trained, refused to allow this and insisted that he remain in power, also voting him the title AUGUSTUS (the revered) by which he is known to history.

With the defeat of Antony and Cleopatra, the immense treasury of Egypt fell into the hands of Augustus. He therefore had a large supply of bullion which he converted into inexpensive propaganda (inexpensive since he would have had to spend it regardless). The mints now began to issue great quantities of coin commemorating his new titles and the fact that he wished to protect the old ways of the Republic. Hypocricy perhaps, but after a century of civil war many Romans felt that a few freedoms were a reasonable price for much security and prosperity. His overlordship having been accepted, the Augustan coinage turned to other themes. Since the reign of Augustus was one of great military expansion, martial types were quite common. We thus find victories recorded over Egyptians, Germans, Armenians, Parthians, etc. We also find predictable silence concerning the loss of Germany and its legions in 9 BC.

Many other things occur on his coins: various gods and goddesses to whom he was grateful (and implying probable future help), provincial issues implying his divinity. Interestingly, Augustus did not really push the idea of his divinity, sensing that the Romans had not yet forgotten the freedom and equality of the Republic.

Near the end of his long reign (he lived 77 years and reigned 41) Augustus began to search for a successor. Originally he had intended his friend and general Agrippa. With Agrippa's early death the coin record lapses until he adopted his grandsons Caius and Lucius Caesar. Although there were not many types representing these young men, the coins mentioning them were issued in great numbers. One of those is the most common of all the denari of Augusut (Cohen 43). Again, however, both young men died and Augustus turned to his stepson Tiberius. Predictably, Tiberius appears on the official currency chiefly in commemoratives of his considerable military abilities. It is interesting to note that the denarius showing the grandsons of Augustus (Cohen 43) continued to be struck until the death of Augustus. Since great numbers of this coin have been found outside the empire (India, Germany, Russia) it seems reasonable to conjecture that this coin became something of a "trade dollar" and that the government saw fit to continue its issue even after the death of the young Caesars. These coins were evidently so popular that some barbarian tribes made crude copies to serve as their coinage. The whole question of the succession was emphasized both to advertise the successor and to thereby prevent more civil wars.

There are many other interesting facets to the coinages of Augustus. The portrait of Augustus on his coins ages up to a point, and then, except for a few cases, he looks about thirty years old for 45 years. Augustus also had mints in both Rome and the provinces. The coinages of Rome tend to emphasize his titles and political reforms while the provinces display military devices (the legions were in the provinces).

While this is by no means a full account of the coinages and policies of Augustus, it should be apparent that it is difficult to overstate the total importance of his reign. The themes and ideas of his coinages appear again and again in later reigns. In contrast to many of his successors, the propaganda and events on the coins of Augustus were usually based on real achievements. The political entity he fashioned gave Western man two centuries of peace.

A TENTATIVE CHECKLIST FOR JUNAGADH SILVER

by Richard K. Bright

The silver coinage of the Nawabs of Junagadh on the Kathiawar Peninsula in west India is restricted to but two denominations, the 1/2 kori and the full kori. The 1/2 kori is known in but one type although its issuance spread over the reign of three different rulers and thus is listed by Craig C-27, 35 and 42. The kori is known in four types. What is supposedly the first type is a rare coin struck during the time of Bahadur Khan, 1811-40 AD, by his Hindu Diwan, Ranchorji Amarji, which contained the Nagari legends, "Salutation to the divine Hātakeswara" and "Salutation to Raghunāthji". This praise of Hindu gods so displeased the Muhammadan Nawab that he forbade its release. O. Codrington in his article "The Coinages of Cutch and Kathiawar", Num. Chron., Ser. 3, vol. 18, 1895, states that this undated coin was struck in 1829 and that it was followed by the next type, represented in Craig by C-28, (36), and 43 but the earliest Samvat Era date that I've observed on these coins is 1875 (1818 AD). This means that either the undated coin was struck in 1818 or earlier or it was the second instead of the first type. The kori commencing in 1818 was in the name of the Mughul Emperor, Muhammad Akbar II, and was struck unchanged until 1920 SE (1863 AD). The next kori type, C-47, of very similar appearance, was struck in the name of the then Nawab, Mahabat Khan II from 1932-1938 SE (1875-1881 AD). The final kori type is known to have been struck in but a single year, 1966 SE (1909 AD).

With the exception of the undated kori and possibly the one of 1966 SE which I've not seen, the koris and their halves contain the AH and SE dates on the same side of the coins. I will attempt to give some kind of rarity rating to the koris but since my experience is limited to only 120 pieces from three lots, the accuracy will leave something to be desired. C = Common, S = Scarce and R = Rare. The 1/2 koris are considerably scarcer than the koris and too few come on the market to determine the relative rarity of their dates.

		1/2	KORI		
C-27	1236AH-1877SE			1251AH-1892SE	
C-35	1267AH-????SE				
C-42	1270AH-1910SE 1271AH-1911SE 1272AH-1912SE 1274AH-1914SE 1275AH-1915SE			1276AH-1916SE 1278AH-1918SE 1279AH-1919SE 1280AH-1920SE	
		11	KORI		
C-25	Undated (1829	AD?)	RRR		
C-28	1235AH-1875SE 1235AH-1876SE 1236AH-1876SE 1236AH-1877SE 1245AH-1886SE	S R C C		1247AH-1888SE 1249AH-1890SE 1251AH-1892SE 1521AH-1892SE(Sic) 1252AH-1892SE	80088
c-(36)	1263AH-190?SE	S		1267AH-1907SE	S

C-43	1268AH-1908SE	C	1275AH-1905SE	C
	1270AH-1910SE	R	1276AH-1915SE	S
	1272AH-1912SE	R	1277AH-1917SE	C
	1273AH-1913SE	C	1278AH-1918SE	C
	1273AH-1914SE	S	1279AH-1919SE	C
	1274AH-1914SE	C	1280AH-1920SE	C
C-47	1292AH-1932SE	С	1297AH-1936SE	C
	1293AH-1933SE	S	1298AH-1937SE	C
	1293AH-1934SE	C	1299AH-1938SE	C
Y	1966SE	R		

THE NUMISMATIC HISTORY OF THE GERMAN TOWN HALLE (ANHALT)

by Klaus Persing

- 806 Charles the Great (768-814) erected a frontier fortress against the Slavs near "Halla".
- 937 King Otto I gave the castle of the kingdom of Giebichenstein (near Halle) to the church in Magdeburg.
- 968 The Archbishopric of Magdeburg was founded. Halle and the Castle Giebichenstein belonged to the archbishopric.
- 987 King Otto III gave the right to mint to the Castle Giebichenstein and a mint was erected.
- 1487 Halle obtained from the Archbishop Ernst, the founder of Moritzburg (castle of the holy Mauritius) in Halle, the right to mint.
- 1503 A mint was constructed in the new Moritzburg building.
- 1582 The Magdebury mint was closed. In the Archbishopric Magdebury there is now only the Halle mint.
- 1621 The Halle mint was quite active and struck pfennigs in copper to relieve the shortage of small change during the Thirty Year War. These coins were 12mm. in diameter.
- 1680 Minting in Halle came to an end because the Archbishopric Magdebury was annexed to Branderbury (Prussia).

All the coins of the Halle mint belonged to the prominent products of the German engravers which made the dies for the coins of Halle. These coins are not only documents of the economic command importance of the archbishopric in the Middle Ages but also excellent monuments to the romanic small-art.

Today, Halle is a district-town in the German Democratic Republic with a population of about 350,000.